

Intervention: Self Center (School Linked Reproductive Health Center)

Finding: Sufficient evidence for effectiveness

Potential partners to undertake the intervention:

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofits or local coalitions | <input type="checkbox"/> Businesses or labor organizations |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schools or universities | <input type="checkbox"/> Media |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health care providers | <input type="checkbox"/> Local public health departments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State public health departments | <input type="checkbox"/> Policymakers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals, clinics or managed care organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Background on the intervention:

Originally implemented in Baltimore, this program involves the existence of an adolescent health clinic located near junior and senior high schools. The program is designed to provide year-round contraceptive and reproductive health services to students. Clinic staff make presentations in the school's homerooms, and spend time at the school's health office for group or individual student discussions. Clinic staff provide reproductive health services at the clinic. Services are offered free of charge to students who enroll in the clinic and remain in school.

Findings from the systematic reviews:

Program participants delayed the initiation of sexual intercourse and were more likely than non-participants to use reproductive health services prior to having sex. Sexually active participants had reduced incidence of unprotected sex and increased use of contraception. In addition, it reduced teen pregnancy rates in the participating community compared to the control community.

Limitations/Comments:

This program is designed to augment sex education curricula. The evaluator of the program suggests that it was the accessibility of the staff and clinic, and not new information about contraception, that encouraged the students to obtain services. The population served was African American and urban.

Additional information:

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E-mail: pasha@socio.com

Alford, S. Science and Success: Sex education and other programs that work to prevent teen pregnancy, HIV and sexually transmitted infections; 2003. Available online at:
[Advocates for Youth - http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/publications/ScienceSuccess.pdf](http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/publications/ScienceSuccess.pdf)